5/28/69

Dear Mr. Longbottom,

First, I must ask a favor of you. You neat handwriting is much too fine for my poor vision. I have difficulty with it with a magnifying glass. When you write, I'd appreciate it if you could make the characters a little larger.

The two books will go by surface mail within the next day or so. I imagine it will take about three weeks. The problem with conversion here is such I'm content to wait until you can make the necessary arrangements there. With postage I imagine the entire bill will be about $6.75.

I doubt if you'll be able to get a copy of Sylvia Meagher's index. It is, as you say, quite valuable, even if it is also, necessarily, incomplete.

I cannot help you with the copies of LIFE, for I have only the one set and I am not certain I still have all they printed. They have long since disappeared from the second-hand stores. Probably your best bet will be a library. Do not overlook Paris-Match, which published some of LIFE's pictures, as I recall it. I do not recall what British magazine did.

You ask about Joesten. I give youxe candid reply. His work is horrible. It is a blend of thievery, irresponsible conjecture, the grossest inaccuracy and the wildest imaginings, all presented like the given word. It is absolutely beyond belief, it is that wrong, that bad. He has nothing of his own but the imaginings and irresponsibility. He helps himself to whatever he finds for the rest. At best the reader is deceived.

Of the forensic pathologists in this country there is but one who to my knowledge has a decent concept of the fact and is a completely honorable man. Thatkis Cyril Wecht. However, if you should happen in be in touch with one of those on the panel appointed by the previous administration, I'd very much like to know who he is and what he says. The best-known of them is Dr. Russell Fisher, who has an excellent reputation but did very badly in this instance. The problem with all of them is they haven't the raw material. It has been suppressed. Save to express dissatisfaction with the inadequancy of the evidence, what can one of them now do? He doesn't have the most elemental fact, not even on the location of the wounds. I project a three-part series on the autopsy and what relates and have done limited editions of two of these books. I cannot get them printed and cannot afford to print them myself. So, what I say above is not my surmise, it is solid fact. We do not have the basic information on the wounds. I think I have retrieved some of it, enough to disprove the entire fiction for the umpteenth time.

Hope you do well in your exams. Several of the fine young men with whom I work are now taking their orals for their doctorates and are quite busy with them.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg